



Hermosa Beach City Manager's Office City Council Meeting Recap 09.24.19

A brief recap of important items discussed during the September 24, 2019 City Council meeting is provided below:

September 24, 2019 ([Meeting Agenda](#))

Recognition of Outgoing City Board & Commission Members - Council recognized the following Board & Commission members for their service to the City:

- Parks, Recreation & Community Resources Advisory Commission Chair – Robert Rosenfeld
- Civil Service Board – E. Thomas Moroney
- Civil Service Board – Barry Warner



Proclamation Declaring October 2, 2019 as Clean Air Day in Hermosa Beach – Council declared October 2, 2019 as Clean Air Day in Hermosa Beach. The proclamation was presented to Angela Babcock from the Clean Air Coalition.

Los Angeles County West Vector & Vector-Borne Disease Control District Board of Trustees Update – City delegate Jim Fasola advised that despite temperate conditions and lack of standing water, Hermosa Beach has twice the County average of vector control calls due in large part to mosquitoes from storm drains running through the beach and a high number of sump/drainage pits throughout the City. City staff has met with the County and Mr. Fasola on next steps to obtain Coastal Commission

permits and clean out City and County-owned storm drains.

City Manager Updates

City Manager Suja Lowenthal provided updates on the following items:

- **Cypress District Special Event Permitting** – the Planning Commission will conduct a mid-October study session on the permit process for Cypress District business special events. Staff will be conducting an inventory of businesses and a walking tour of the Cypress District.
- **New Greenbelt & Valley Park Water Fountains** – the City will be installing four new bottle filler water fountains (3 at the Greenbelt and 1 at Valley Park) funded by a West Basin Municipal Water District grant.



Hermosa Beach City Manager's Office
City Council Meeting Recap
09.24.19

- [Homelessness Webpage](#) – the City will be adding content to its website to assist residents and businesses concerned with unsheltered individuals including providing answers to frequently asked questions. While City per capita homelessness has remained relatively low (annual Hermosa Beach homeless counts ranged from 17 to 25 from 2015 to 2019), numbers are trending upward regionally. The City is working cooperatively with People Assisting The Homeless (PATH), the South Bay Cities Council of Governments and other Beach Cities on regional solutions to connect people to services and housing. Contact the PATH hotline at (562) 457-0205 or e-mail southbay@epath.org to assist individuals in need of services or housing (non-emergency). For mental health evaluation services please contact the City's Police dispatch line at (310) 524-2750.

Consent Calendar Item - Lighthouse Anniversary Event Donation – the City accepted with appreciation a \$10,000 donation from Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn's Office for the Lighthouse Café's 70th Anniversary Event held on June 26, 2019.

Consent Ordinance to Establish a Two-Year Pilot Program for Commercial Zone Short Term Vacation Rentals – Council re-introduced an amended ordinance to establish a two-year pilot program for short term vacation rentals at non-conforming residential properties in commercial zoning districts, changing the 45 minute requirement to respond to complaints to requiring the owner or authorized agent to be onsite within 30 minutes to address complaints if requested by City staff. Council will consider adoption of the amended ordinance at their next meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2019.

Consent Ordinance to Rezone 820 9th Street – Council adopted ordinance 19-1396 to rezone 820 9th Street from General Commercial (C-3) to Single Family Residential (R-1).

Public Hearing – 2019 Special Events – Council approved the addition of the following special events to the City's 2019 Special Events Calendar as recommended by the Parks & Recreation Committee:

- **Volley4Sound** – Saturday, October 19, 2019 north of the Pier – beach volleyball tournament benefiting hearing impaired individuals (applicant Hearing Loss Association of America).
- **Mike Doyle Celebration of Life and Paddle-Out** – Sunday, October 20, 2019 at the pierhead and on the south side of the Pier – fundraiser for the ALS Association's Golden West Chapter (applicant South Bay Boardriders Club).
- **The Burpee Mile** – Saturday, December 7, 2019 on the south side of the Pier to 9th Street (applicant Nathan Luczynski / The Burpee Mile).

Public Hearing: Bijou Building - 1221 Hermosa Avenue – Historical Landmark Theatre Space Tenant Improvement – Council adopted a resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for a first floor tenant improvement and determined the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Public Hearing: 1515 Monterey Boulevard – Council adopted a resolution to deny a variance from the multiple family residential (R-3) open space zone provisions and parking standards for a new single family residence at 1515 Monterey, upholding the denial of Variance 19-1 by the Planning Commission.



Hermosa Beach City Manager's Office
City Council Meeting Recap
09.24.19

Tree Ordinance Amendment – Council introduced an ordinance to amend [Hermosa Beach Municipal Code Chapter 12.36](#) and adopted a resolution amending the City's master fee schedule to include new administrative fines for parkway tree ordinance violations (\$250 to \$1,000 per tree for damage, destruction or removal) and a new \$200 tree removal permit application fee. Under the ordinance:

- Tree removal permits shall not be issued if an ailing parkway tree can be revived or if a sidewalk can be repaired without tree removal;
- The City will pay for sidewalk repairs due to parkway tree damage per current practice. Property owners will continue to be responsible for sidewalk repairs caused by trees on private property;
- Removed parkway trees shall be replaced onsite on a 2:1 ratio, with new trees selected from the City's approved tree list (up from the current 1:1 ratio with replacements currently able to be placed elsewhere in the City);
- The Public Works Director may permit removal of all dead trees (currently, removal of all trees with a diameter > 12 inches must be approved by the Public Works Commission which meets every two months); and
- Demolition permits issued by the Community Development Department will no longer authorize parkway tree removal in favor of a new tree removal permit issued by the Public Works Department.

Miscellaneous Items & Other Matters:

- **Airport Noise (LAX & Hawthorne Airports)** – Mayor Armato advised airport noise issues may be forwarded to her attention (sarmato@hermosabch.org) for presentation to airport roundtable groups. The Hawthorne Airport roundtable will meet in two weeks.
- **Downtown Subcommittee** – Councilmember Massey reported the subcommittee is working on Upper Pier Avenue and Hermosa Avenue lighting and Hermosa Avenue landscaping. Mayor Armato noted Public Works will be installing dimmable lights on Pier Plaza. Councilmember Fangary noted positive progress on new bus stop and trash can installations along with Hermosa Avenue landscaping which no longer scratches cars.
- **Entry Signage** – Mayor Pro Tem Campbell and Mayor Armato requested a future agenda item to consider design of the City's entry signage once the City logo and style guide are finalized.
- **Holiday Parking Program** – the Council will consider implementation of the City's 2019 holiday parking program at its meeting on October 22, 2019.
- **Independent Cities Association (ICA) Delegate Appointment** - Council appointed Mayor Armato as the City's delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Campbell as alternate to ICA.
- **Leadership Hermosa** – Mayor Pro Tem Campbell and Councilmember Massey will attend a future Leadership Hermosa check-in meeting.



**Hermosa Beach City Manager's Office
City Council Meeting Recap
09.24.19**

- **League of California Cities** – Council designated Mayor Pro Tem Campbell as voting delegate and Mayor Armato as alternate for the League of California Cities Annual Business Meeting scheduled for October 18, 2019 at the Long Beach Convention Center. Council authorized the voting delegate to support two General Assembly Resolutions to:
 1. Call upon the California Public Utilities Commission to amend Rule 20A to expand undergrounding overhead utilities in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones; and
 2. Call upon federal and State governments to restore U.S.-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program funding to address transboundary pollution flows and water quality issues.
- **North School Subcommittee** – Councilmember Massey reported that a stakeholder advocacy group had been assembled to assist the City and Hermosa Beach City School District in developing the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan for the North School construction project.
- **Storm Drain Cleaning** – Councilmember Duclos requested an update on re-establishing funding for beach storm drain cleaning prior to major storms.

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A STUDY SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 6 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019 ON THE COASTAL ZONE PARKING ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATIONS; AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS ("P3").

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 (NO MEETING ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2019).

Questions or comments? Contact the Assistant to the City Manager Nico De Anda-Scaia Monday through Thursday, 7AM – 6PM at (310) 318-0201 or via email at ndeanda@hermosabch.org

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